

Removal of the Remains of Washington

To the Editor of the Alexandria Gazette:

In the December number of Harper's Magazine, there is a sketch of Washington City, in which the writer, speaking of the Washington Monument, coolly states that, "in the center of the Monument are to be placed the remains of Washington." My object, is to inquire whether this is seriously intended? Years ago, some steps were taken to accomplish this design, to remove the ashes of Washington from Virginia; but so deep and earnest was the indignation excited throughout the State, that the attempt was abandoned. Is the attempt to be renewed? If so, then the people of Alexandria, and the people of Fairfax, the natural guardians of Washington's tomb, should, if necessary, resist it to the death!

In Ancient Rome, it was considered the greatest crime to disturb the ashes of the mighty dead, and the greatest calamity, in the estimation of Roman patriots, that could befall their city, and the most dreaded consequence of its conquest by Barbarians, was the profanation of the ashes of Romulus.

Every person familiar with the writings of the greatest of Roman Poets, will recall the eloquent language in which this most terrible misfortune is deprecated.

—Barbarus he cineres insedit victor—
—Queque carent ventis et solibus, ossa Quirini,
—Nona videtur dissipat insensum.

The ashes of Romulus were not more sacred than the ashes of Washington. For fifty years, the tomb at Mount Vernon has been consecrated by the tears of the noblest spirits that ever lived upon this earth. It is said that when Lafayette was in this country, he visited the spot alone, in order to give free vent to the feelings of his heart; and it was here, as to an altar, that he brought his son, George Washington Lafayette, to learn, as it were, the religion of patriotism, and to take upon himself its sacred obligations, and make its fitting vows. Who, that ever visited the tomb of Washington (especially if he were a Virginian, and had a heart within his bosom,) did not come away conscious of some improvement of his moral nature; and longing for a while the better news of party spirit, did not feel that he still had a country to love deeply, and to serve faithfully? Imagine an attempt to remove the remains of Jackson from Tennessee! The whole Nation, from Carter to Shelby, would be up in arms, if necessary, to prevent it. Such would be the case, if a similar attempt were made upon the ashes of Calhoun in South Carolina, or Clay in Kentucky. And yet, two of these men were only adopted sons of the State where they lived, and died. But Washington was our own—bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh. The writer of this is a subscriber to the Washington Monument, but had he known that it was contemplated to rife the grave of Washington of its sacred treasure, he would sooner have contributed his money to blow the monument to the moon.

I hope you will use the influence of your paper to save our old State from this deep disgrace. "Let Washington rest!" and may the day never come when the beautiful and patriotic lines of Collins will be less applicable to the spot where he reposes than they now are.

—There Honor comes, a pilgrim gray,
To deck the turf that wraps his clay,
And Freedom shall avow its regret,
To dwell a weeping hermit there."

A. A. VIRGINIAN.
HALFAX COUNTY, VA., Feb. 3.

Fugitive Slave Case in Pa.

To the Editor of the Alexandria Gazette:

JEFFERSON, Va., Feb. 7, 1857.—Observing in a late number of your paper, a notice of the arrest of a runaway servant, belonging to your father, Dr. Peter B. Brown, I send you a paper sent me from Uniontown, Pennsylvania, containing an abstract of the proceedings in that case, under the "Fugitive Slave Act," with a request that you will publish the same in the Gazette. I will state for the information of each of the readers of your paper as may feel interested, that there exists with the citizens of that portion of Pennsylvania, so far as I could judge, a strict regard for the rights of owners of slaves, and a kindness and diligence in effecting their arrest and restoration to their masters, unequalled in a slave-holding State.

This slave Brook, had fled from service at Miller's woolen factory, Culpeper County, Va., about six months previous to his arrest, and had been in Pennsylvania about four months. My father having accidentally come in possession of a letter, said slave had carried to be written to Judy Murray, a free colored woman in Jefferson, and learning from it, that he was in Uniontown, executed a power of attorney to me, to arrest, and I proceeded to that place alone, an entire stranger.

Upon communicating the object of my visit to my counsel, Mr. James Veech, and his partner, Mr. A. N. Fuller, they rendered every assistance in their power, and conducted me to a United States Commissioner, Hon. R. P. Fenniken, for whose courteous treatment, both in his official capacity, and as a private citizen, I shall ever feel a lively sense of gratitude. Mr. Fenniken promptly appointed a United States Deputy Marshal, who, with his assistant, proceeded a distance of 12 miles, in bitter cold weather, making search in several villages, until they effected the arrest of the fugitive in Connelville, and brought him to jail in Uniontown, 21 hours after his appointment as Deputy Marshal. The next day he was brought before the Commissioner, in the Court House.—The Court being in session, gave way for the trial, which ended in the Commissioner handing him over to the Deputy Marshal and Mr. C. P. Austin, to deliver to my father in Culpeper County, Va. They did so, and he went quietly to labor on the farm, where he has remained since, and expresses himself better satisfied than with his freedom in Pennsylvania.

The crowd in the Court House seemed satisfied, and some gave expression to me verbally of gratification at the result of the arrest.

GEORGE M. B.

From the Uniontown, Pa. Genius of Liberty.

On Monday last, Edwin Brook, alias Thomas Slaughter, was brought before the Hon. R. P. Fenniken, United States Commissioner, as a fugitive from service, on a warrant issued by said Commissioner to William C. McKean, Deputy United States Marshal. Messrs. Veech & Fuller, appeared for Peter B. Brown, claimant, and J. K. Ewing for the negro. The following is a synopsis of the evidence given before the Commissioner.

Dr. George M. Brown sworn.—I know the negro under arrest to be the slave of Peter B. Brown, of Culpeper County, Virginia; his name is Brook; sometimes called Edwin Brook; he fled from service in July, 1852; my father had him for 12 or 15 years; brought him from Vincent Tapp, for \$250; the negro is a blacksmith, and is about 41 or 22 years of age.

Cross Examined.—I am the son of Peter B. Brown; I have no interest in the negro, and no expectation of any reward; I saw this negro at my father's a day or two before he ran off; my father owns his sister; his father and mother live on the estate of George Ficklin, about 12 miles from my father's.

A letter was shown to the Commissioner postmarked Uniontown, December 25th, directed to Mrs. Judy Murray, a free negro, Jefferson County, Culpeper County, Va.

Robert Hunter sworn.—I wrote the letter for the negro under arrest; he went by the name of Thomas Slaughter, and was working at Charles King's shop.

J. F. Roedel.—This letter was put in the Post Office so strictly directed, that I put it in an envelope, and directed it; this envelope is directed in my hand writing, and this is the letter I put in it.

Mr. Veech read the letter, in which the fugitive referred to sundry persons in the neighborhood of Mr. Brown's, &c.

The counsel for the fugitive offered no testimony, but contended that the power of attorney from Peter B. Brown to his son, was not properly acknowledged; and that the claimant

should have shown a bill of sale from Vincent Tapp.

The Commissioner overruled both objections and delivered the fugitive into the custody of Mr. Brown.

During the hearing of the above case, the Court House was crowded, but the whole affair passed off without any excitement.

Mr. Fenniken deserves great credit for the courteous and decided manner in which he disposed of the case.

Baltimore and Ohio Company.

There appears to be abroad in this State just now, a healthy appreciation of the merits of this corporation, and a warm disposition to treat it accordingly. It is apparent in the action of the Legislature denying a subscription to the Clark'sburg and Weston railroad, and a naked charter to the Clark'sburg and Big Sandy connection. In the refusal to appropriate money for macadamizing the northwestern turnpike it showed itself in excess. Equally noticeable is the feeling in the columns of the press of nearly all sections of the State, by no means excepting those immediately on the route, towards its western end, and the pride of the towns in the Monocacy valley complaining that the rates of freight and fare charged them are as high as those to and from Wheeling, a hundred miles farther. At Martinsburg, one of the chief and favored stations on the company, the tone is almost identical. The Republican of that place accuses the company of the most "brazen impudence" in asking further favors from Virginia, after "practicing the grossest imposition" upon her citizens in the shape of "the enormous disproportion of fare and freight they are now paying;" and adds:

"For freight from Baltimore, it is pretty well understood the people of Cumberland (say no more than the citizens of Slattsburgh, and those of other points in the county. The same rule is observed in regard to passengers. This subject has been brought to the notice of our Legislature, and it is hoped the committee required to investigate it will do so thoroughly and make a speedy report; and that if the charter of the company is thus vitiated, as is believed, that it may be made to bear the consequences. There are other grievances which might be noticed by which the company, hindered by their cupidity, are operating against their own interests, in imposing upon the community."

Whatever ground the position of Wheeling as the terminus of the road may furnish for making a ticket to that point no more costly than the one to an intermediate station, the discrimination in favor of Cumberland cannot be so justified. It is a way-depot, and we cannot imagine why it should be favored at the expense of others, unless that it is in Maryland, while the latter are in Virginia.

The coal-mines in this State are who's cut off from communication with Alexandria.—They are situated on the railroad twenty-five miles above the head of the canal; and the tolls on that distance are placed at a maximum, for the purpose of retaining the entire business for the railroad. Before the latter thought the coal-trade profitable enough to justify the necessary provision of motive power for carrying it to Baltimore—which was before the completion of the Canal to Cumberland—it assisted the latter by carrying coal from Cumberland in dunnage, No. 6 for two cents per ton per mile.—Now, the policy is to prevent a single ton from reaching the Chesapeake.

The Company is thus shown to be practically able, and perfectly willing, to discriminate against the citizens of that State without whose liberality the road would have remained a dead work ending at Harper's Ferry. Whether it have the legal right to do so, is not yet decided. The question has been before a committee of the Legislature, but with no effect so far as we know. The terms of the grant of 1827 certainly were intended to protect our citizens and to keep the company under legislative control like those which long entitle to the State. If they have proved ineffective, the earliest opportunity will, we trust, be taken to remedy the evil.

Such an opportunity, it is believed by many, is now presented by a man-of-war into which the company has been led by its own cupidity and fatheadness.—*After interdict Virginia.*

Married.

At the Spring Farm, near Staunton, on the 1st inst., by the Rev. T. T. Castman, Prof. H. F. GRAY, of the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and Blind, to ANNE E. daughter of Wm. Donaghe, esq.

On Tuesday, 1st inst., by the Rev. Mr. Hoyle, NATHAN LOWE, of Badenberry, Maryland, to Miss MARY GLADIAN, of Washington.

On the 1st inst., by the Rev. W. H. Fisher, HOWERTON CROSS, esq., to Miss ELIZABETH BALDWIN, all of Baltimore, Prince George's County, Md.

On the 1st inst., by Rev. Mr. McManus, RALPH T. DUCKETT, esq., to Miss SOPHIA EUGENIA daughter of Philip Hill, esq., all of Prince George's County, Md.

Died.

On the 1st inst., in Spotsylvania County, Mr. JANE R. ROY, wife of Walter Roy, in the 71st year of her age. This estimable female has passed away, leaving a painful chasm in the circle in which she moved. Her presence ever cheered her household. Without offspring, she was eminently the friend, the mother of but many orphans. They mourn her departure with unalloyed grief. She died in peace, and was buried according to the forms of the Protestant Episcopal Church, amidst the regrets of congregated friends and neighbors.

On the 30th January, at the residence of her uncle, William Hayne, Prince George's County, Md., after a long and painful sickness, borne with the most cheerful patience and christian resignation, MARY EXELL, daughter of Hanson and Eleanor Calvert, in the 17th year of her age. Amiable and affectionate disposition, her gentle spirit, unclouded by earthly tenebrous, has taken flight and returned to him who gave it.

In Washington, on the 6th inst., of scarlet fever, GEORGE MARSH, aged 4 years and 6 months, youngest child of Lieut. M. G. Gillet, U. S. Navy.

In St. Louis, Missouri, on the 2nd ultimo, GEORGE A. HYDE, a native of Georgetown, D. C., but the last fifteen years a resident, and at the time of his death Recorder of the City of St. Louis.

Age—W. L. BOLAN has been an active fireman for many years, and will be employed at the ensuing election, for the office of Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, by the FIREMEN AND CITIZENS CANDIDATE.

Feb 11—1857

Among other articles of beauty at the Exhibition, we noticed a case of STARKER'S ANODYNE CHERRY EXPECTORANT, which by beauty of appearance surpassed anything of the kind we ever saw, and we have the assurance from some of our first Physicians that it is a very valuable Medicine. To those suffering with Colds, Hoarseness, Asthma, &c., we would recommend a trial.

25,000 FEET Spruce Boards
72 tons Window Plaster, cargo of Schr. Josephine, for sale by
J. LEADBEATER.

ANDRETH SARGENT SEEDS, fully supplied for early planting, just received, and for sale by
J. LEADBEATER.

Catalogues furnished gratis upon application.
PALM SOAP and Almond do., in bars of cakes. For sale by
JOHN LEADBEATER.

2 mo 9 Nubler's old stand, Fairfax St.
ADHESIVE PLASTER, for sale by 5 or 10 yards, at the manufacturer's price, by
JOHN LEADBEATER.

2 mo 9 Nubler's old stand, Fairfax St.
1,800 LBS. of Shouder of Bacon, hams and dry, in store, and for sale by THOMAS BURNS, corner of Prince and Fairfax streets.

DAILY expected per Scho. Rome and Palo Alto, one hundred and sixty-seven tons of TRANSITION COAL, and for sale by
JAMES GREEN & SON,
Jan 31